



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/945,171	08/30/2001	Howard J. Smith	476-2051	3257
7590	03/07/2006		EXAMINER	
Lee, Mann, Smith, McWilliams, Sweeney & Ohlson P.O. Box 2786 Chicago, IL 60690-2786			FILE, ERIN M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2634	

DATE MAILED: 03/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/945,171

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Examiner

Erin M. File

Art Unit

2634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/20/2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 11-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 12/20/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant contends that a declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 will be filed in regards to the Wessel reference, however, this affidavit has not been received and therefore the applicants traversal is not persuasive.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wessel and in further view of Olive.

Claims 1, 7, 11, 13, and 14, Wessel et al shows and describes a feedback loop system that detects' phase and gain errors for better predistortion adaptation (column 10, Lines 5-16). Wessel fails to disclose switch means which alternately couples a first and

Art Unit: 2634

second detector means to the input and output of said amplifier, however, Olive discloses a structure in which two detectors (fig. 1, 15, 17) are selectively chosen by a switch (16) for input to a differential amplifier (18). Olive further discloses the use of modulators (20) and a rectifier (21) in order to correct for errors. The use of selection in an input signal allows the amplifier to choose which signal is stronger and more prepared for amplification and would therefore be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to incorporate Olive's selective detecting means into Wessel's invention.

Claim 2, Wessel describes the use of a difference signal (618) in the feedback loop.

Claim 4, Wessel describes the use of a DSP for error detection in the loop (col. 7, lines 59-65).

Claim 5, the applicant admits that the use a hybrid circuit for phase correction or adjustment is prior art (p. 8, lines 15-19).

Claims 6, 8, and 12, Wessel describes the use averaging the error along the closed loop (col. 11, line 49 – col. 12, line 35).

Claim 9, Wessel describes the use of adaptive predistortion by using the results from a comparator (col. 7, lines 34-65).

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wessel and Olive and in further view of Sahlman.

Claim 3, Sahlman discloses a DC offset applied to the output of a detector (paragraph [0050]) The use of a direct current offset to compensate for errors in a signal is well known in the art and would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to incorporate this offset into the combined teachings of Wessel and Olive.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 1, 7 are objected to because of the following informalities: the recitation "said error values" (line 7 of Claim 1, line 9 of Claim 7) is improper because it refers to plural *values*, when the antecedent basis provides for a single *value* (line 5 of Claim 1, line 7 of Claim 7). Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 10 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erin M. File whose telephone number is (571)272-6040. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on (571)272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2634

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Erin M. File

EMF

2/27/2006


JEAN B. CORRIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

3-1-06